

College, which is celebrating the 30th anniversary of its founding this month. I am pleased and proud to have been asked to participate in this significant celebration.

In 1965, the Luzerne County Board of Commissioners took a very bold step. They adopted a resolution to sponsor a 2 year college which would be affordable to all Luzerne County residents. A study was needed and the board called upon the County Board of School Directors to initiate planning of the project. In less than a year, an application was made to the Pennsylvania State Board of Education for permission to establish and operate a community college. The State board granted permission in September 1966.

Two months later, Luzerne County Community College was officially in operation. A board of trustees was formed and a president was appointed to lead the college. On October 2, 1967 the college opened its doors for the first time in small quarters located next to the Hotel Sterling in downtown Wilkes-Barre. The college's first class of 195 students graduated in May 1969.

Mr. Speaker, the foresight of the County Commissioners; Ed Wideman, William G. Goss and James B. Post, 30 years ago has made it possible for more than 13,000 young people to begin a college career or earn a 2 year degree for professional advancement. Over 200 area businesses employ Luzerne County Community College alumni.

In 1974, the college moved to its present impressive campus in Nanticoke, Pennsylvania. This modern campus includes an educational conference center, general academics building and two technical arts buildings with state of the art labs and classrooms. The campus also includes medical and dental arts facilities and the newest addition, the advanced technology center.

Mr. Speaker, Luzerne County Community College has come a long way since its humble beginnings in downtown Wilkes-Barre 30 years ago. I am extremely proud to join with the community in commending the board of trustees, management, and staff of the college in providing educational opportunity to thousands of area residents. I would also like to recognize the Luzerne county commissioners who have continued to play an active role in supporting this important educational institution.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to bring the history of this fine institution to the attention of my colleagues and send my sincere best wishes for continued success.

TRIBUTE TO JACOB GEORGE HUDSON

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 1997

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, this coming Sunday, September 21, will be the 80th birthday of a truly outstanding American, my constituent, Jacob George Hudson.

Mr. Hudson is affectionately known by all of his friends and neighbors as "Shag." He has been one of the leaders in Loudon County and throughout the State of Tennessee for many years.

Shag Hudson served for 28 years on the Loudon County Commission, from 1954 to

1982. During this time, he performed marriages for over 3,000 couples.

He was also well known as a fighter for low taxes and as one who tried to make sure that the citizens got their moneys' worth for their tax dollars.

Mr. Hudson has proudly operated a farm in the Greenback community for the past 65 years, raising beef cattle and working as a self-employed cattle broker.

He served with great distinction for 5 years as a member of the State Committee of Agricultural Stabilization Conservation Service from 1987 to 1992.

He began serving the Merchants and Farmers Bank in 1973 and presently serves as a director of Union Planter Bank.

He has been a member of Greenback Masonic Lodge for 49 years, and he is a master mason.

He has been a member of the Loudon County Farm Bureau since 1944, and he has been a member and director of the Loudon County Livestock Association since 1970.

He also serves as a director of Tellico Area Services System, and he has been church treasurer, elder, and deacon at First Presbyterian Church of Greenback.

Shag Hudson's greatest pride and joy is not in his community service, however, as great as that has been. Rather, it is in his family. He has been married to his wife, Willie Dixon, for over 56 years. They are the proud parents of two children, a daughter, Brenda Powell and son, Ronald Hudson. His son-in-law is John Powell and daughter-in-law, Judy Hudson.

He is even prouder of his grandchildren, Scott and Eric Powell and Kelly, Kent, and Leigh Hudson.

I wanted to inform my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD about the life and career of Shag Hudson. This country would be a far better place if we had more citizens like Jacob George Hudson, and on behalf of a grateful nation, I want to wish him a very happy 80th birthday, and best wishes for many more.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 1997

Mr. KIND of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, we only have a few weeks left before we adjourn this year. Now is the time to allow a vote on campaign finance reform legislation.

Today we are participating in a civil, bipartisan discussion of reforming the House Ethics Committee. It is refreshing to see respected Members of both parties engage in a dialog about how to improve the ethics process and ultimately restore some respect and dignity to this great institution. I believe the same thing can happen with campaign finance reform. If the Members of this House put aside partisan rhetoric we can fix the current system with honest, bipartisan reforms that puts no party at a disadvantage and restores some faith in this institution.

However, we cannot reach a compromise if we don't consider the bills in committee or on the floor. Those of us waging this war are reduced to 1-minute speeches in the morning, parliamentary antics during the day, and floor

speeches at night when the rest of this body has gone home. It is unfair and embarrassing that we have to pay these games to be heard in the House of Representatives. Mr. Speaker please allow this issue to come to the floor and be given the kind of open, honest debate that this institution deserves.

RECOGNIZING PEORIA, AZ, VFW POST 2135 FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 1997

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my congratulations to Peoria VFW Post 2135, in my home State of Arizona, for being recognized again for their outstanding youth activities program.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to announce to my colleagues that Post 2135 was recognized last month at the Veterans of Foreign Wars National Convention in Salt Lake City, as the winner of the VFW Youth Activities Award. Post 2135 is the first VFW post in the Nation to win this award for 3 consecutive years.

Some of the many and varied youth activities undertaken by VFW posts nationwide are well known to many of us, and include Youth Essays, Voice of Democracy, and Patriotic Art programs.

The winning program must meet several criteria. These include participation in a variety of youth activities offered within the local community, and documenting any communitywide youth activity with news clippings, photographs, testimonial letters. This collection serves to outline the scope of a post's participation in the six major National Youth Program categories. These categories are sports/athletics, scouting/organizations, contests/special events, educational/instructions, recognition and projects.

With nearly 10,000 VFW posts nationwide, it's only a special post with a special membership that can win the coveted award for 3 consecutive years. Peoria Post 2135 has that kind of membership. I can think of no finer embodiment of the essence of the veteran's voluntary spirit than that of Mr. Vincent Rigo, who was in Utah to accept the award on behalf of the 326 members of Post 2135. He's been described as a "renaissance man" for the number of post service positions that he has held. Certainly, without him, and the many others like him in Post 2135, and in veterans organizations throughout the country, our Nation would be that much poorer.

I salute Peoria VFW Post 2135 for their achievements, and wish them the best as they aim for a fourth consecutive award in 1998.

A TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH D. PETERSON

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 1997

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to a tremendous hero from Michigan's Fourth Congressional District. This hero is a